

#### Members

Sen. Connie Lawson, Chairperson  
Sen. Patricia Miller  
Sen. Allie Craycraft  
Sen. Earline Rogers  
Rep. Charlie Brown  
Rep. Peggy Welch  
Rep. Vaneta Becker  
Rep. Timothy Brown  
Greg Wilson, M.D.  
Beverly Richards  
Michael Urban, M.D.  
Beth Compton



# COMMISSION ON EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH CARE

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Authority: P.L.220-2001 (HEA 1845)

## MEETING MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

Meeting Date: October 22, 2002  
Meeting Time: 1:00 P.M.  
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St.,  
Room 233  
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana  
Meeting Number: 3

**Members Present:** Sen. Connie Lawson, Chairperson; Sen. Patricia Miller; Sen. Allie Craycraft; Sen. Earline Rogers; Rep. Charlie Brown; Rep. Vaneta Becker; Greg Wilson, M.D.; Michael Urban, M.D..

**Members Absent:** Rep. Peggy Welch; Rep. Timothy Brown; Beverly Richards; Beth Compton.

Chairperson Lawson called the Commission on Excellence in Health Care to order at 1:10 P.M. Senator Lawson announced that the Commission Interim Reports were available and that there would be no report from the subcommittee on Long term Care at this meeting.

#### Jim Jones, Vice-chairperson, Health Care Professionals Subcommittee

Mr. Jones reported that the Health Care Professionals Subcommittee had met once since the last Commission meeting. The subcommittee appointed an additional work group to examine the issue of the nursing shortage and directed the group to coordinate their efforts with other commissions and interested parties investigating this issue. Mr. Jones reported that the subcommittee work groups had met and agreed to share information in order to limit the potential for duplication of effort. He added that the development of the Professional Licensing Board orientation manual is a priority project for the subcommittee.

Representative Charlie Brown asked Mr. Jones to consider shortages in other professions as possibilities for investigation. He mentioned certified nurse anesthetists (CNA's), physical

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<sup>1</sup> Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.ai.org/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

therapists, and various other allied health care professionals as professions that are facing shortages similar to those occurring in nursing.

Senator Miller commented that IV Tech at Columbus reported that they had turned nursing students away due to a shortage of teaching staff and a lack of space. She suggested that the subcommittee investigate this situation.

Senator Lawson asked the subcommittee representatives present to report on the need for expenses or support for operations such as minutes and administrative support and travel expenses for members. Mr. Jones reported that the lack of funding was not seen as a crisis, although poor attendance at subcommittee meetings was a problem.

**Sam Nussbaum, M.D., Chairman, Healthcare Data and Quality Subcommittee**

Dr. Nussbaum reported that the subcommittee had met and discussed the following items: (1) Creation of a disease registry for various conditions; (2) upon inquiring about available models, the Institute of Medicine reported no existing models of care; (3) the subcommittee should build on existing private measures of quality; and (4) consumers are not using the quality information that is currently made available, and the subcommittee needs to determine the best format for providing this information. The subcommittee is developing a targeted legislative agenda that would focus on smoking cessation, child and adult obesity, diabetes, and a high blood pressure program. The subcommittee is investigating models for access to screening for these conditions and models for medical management. The legislative agenda will include targeted short-term and long-term action plans.

Senator Lawson asked about the dollars being spent on the subcommittee. Dr. Nussbaum responded that the subcommittee members were using the resources of the member's organizations and communicating via the internet.

**Ernest Klein, Jr., Vice-Chairman, Patient Safety Subcommittee**

Mr. Klein reported that the Patient Safety Subcommittee was continuing to meet. The next meeting was scheduled for October 31<sup>st</sup>. He reported that the subcommittee was disseminating information electronically using the IUPUI School of Law web page.

Representative Charlie Brown asked if the Commission wanted to request an appropriation of \$50,000 as was done last year. Discussion followed regarding the appropriate level of funding, the time that it should be available, and the potential use of funds that might be appropriated. Representative Brown made a motion that the Committee request an appropriation of \$25,000 to be available at the end of FY 2003 and throughout FY 2004. The motion carried by a unanimous vote of the members present.

Senator Lawson asked staff to report on the possibility of posting notices on the Legislative Services Agency web site. Ms. Norris reported that Philip Sachtleben, the Director of Legislative Services had indicated that the web site could be made available for the use of the subcommittees and that LSA could do mailings under certain conditions. Ms Norris indicated that the subcommittees would be contacted once it was determined how these actions would be implemented.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 P.M.